

## NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION CODE OF ETHICS

### PURPOSE

The Codes of Ethical Standards adopted for members of the New Jersey State Board of Education shall, in accordance with NJSA 52:13D-12 et seq., provide general guidelines concerning the conduct and activities of said members. This Code shall be distinct from the Code adopted for officers and employees in the State Department of Education on June 30, 1972.

Basic to this Code is the recognition that under our democratic form of government public officials and employees should be drawn from all of our society; that citizens who serve in government cannot and should not be expected to be without any personal interest in the decisions and policies of government; that citizens who are government officials and employees have a right to private interest of personal, financial and economic nature; that standards of conduct should separate those conflicts of interest which are substantial and material or which bring government into disrepute.

### DEFINITIONS

a) "State agency" means any of the principal departments in the Executive Branch Of the State Government, and any division, board, bureau, office, commission or instrumentality within or created by such department, the Legislature of the State and any office, board, bureau of commission with Or created by the Legislative Branch and any independent State authority, commission, instrumentality or agency. A county or municipality shall not be deemed an agency or instrumentality of the State.

b) "Special State Officer", for purpose of this Code, means the president and members of the New Jersey State Board of Education.

c) "person" means any natural person, association or corporation.

d) "Firm" shall mean any association, partnership, corporation or other business enterprise, club or Organization, whether or not said association or partnership, club or other business enterprise is organized for profit.

e) "Interest in a corporation means the ownership or control of more than 10% of the stock of the corporation

f) "Department" means the New Jersey State Department of Education, its Divisions, bureaus, offices, boards, councils, agencies or authorities which are or may be from time to time under the direct or indirect authority of the State Department of Education.

## ETHICAL STANDARDS

a) No special State officer of the Department shall have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in an; business or transaction or professional activity, which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of his duties in the public interest.

b) No special State officer of the Department shall engage in an, particular business, profession, trade or occupation which is subject to licensing or regulation by a specific agency of State government without promptly notifying the President of the State Board and filing notice of such activity with the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards.

c) No Special State officer of the Department shall use or attempt to use his official position to secure unwarranted privileges or advantages for himself or others

d) No Special State officer of the Department shall act in his official capacity in any matter wherein he has a direct or indirect personal financial interest that might reasonably be expected to impair his objectivity or independence of judgment.

e) No special State officer of the Department shall accept any gift, favor, service or other thing of value under circumstances from which it might reasonably be inferred that such gift, favor, service or thing of value was given or offered for the purpose of influencing him in the discharge of his official duties.

f) No special State officer of the Department shall undertake any employment or service, whether compensated or not, which might reasonably be expected to impair his objectivity and independence of judgment in the exercise of his official duties.

The rules and regulations set forth above are intended to be supplementary to all standards provided in NJSA 52:13D-12 et seq. and are not to be construed as being in derogation thereof.

June 26, 1975

Approved by the Executive Commission on Ethical Standards at their Aug. 6, 1975  
Commission Meeting.